



Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Protection: The Domestic Security Alliance Council Annual Meeting

Posted by Michael Howell, ISE Deputy Program Manager on Thursday, February 23, 2012

Earlier this month, I attended the [Domestic Security Alliance Council \(DSAC\)](#) ^[1] annual meeting at the FBI headquarters. DSAC is a strategic partnership between the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, and the private sector that enhances communication and promotes the timely and effective exchange of information. Its goal is to keep the nation's critical infrastructure (such as interstate commerce and industry proprietary information) secure and resilient.

FBI Director Mueller on Cybersecurity

I was fortunate to catch FBI Director Mueller's opening remarks. He discussed the current threats to the United States private sector and the importance of increased collaboration between the public and private sectors. Director Mueller also said that cybersecurity could replace terrorism as the FBI's number one priority within the next couple of years.

Director Mueller emphasized the need for innovative approaches to case management, because issues related to cybersecurity are far more complex than traditional structures ? they cut across all investigative disciplines. He said that it is important to move from the traditional reactive approach (investigation, arrest, and prosecution after the crime has been committed) to a more proactive approach where effective intelligence collection and analysis prevent cyber crime from happening in the first place.

Importantly, Director Mueller stated that strong information-sharing partnerships are a critical tool in this struggle, and he cited the National Cyber Investigation Joint Task Force as an example of the successful collaboration between the FBI, other federal agencies, state and local governments, international partners, and the private sector.

Future Collaboration

PM-ISE looks forward to possible future collaboration with our government and private sector partners on these important information sharing and safeguarding issues. Please feel free to share any comments or ideas below.

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[FBI Completes New Information Sharing System](#) ^[3]

[Information Sharing Success: FBI and state fusion center partner apprehend armed and dangerous fugitives](#) ^[4]

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